

Claims:

1. A cryotherapy device for the treatment of hemorrhoids, comprising:  
a hollow applicator having a wall, wherein the wall of said applicator defines a plurality of slots; and  
a sleeve having an open end such that said applicator can slide into said sleeve and said sleeve covers the slots defined by the wall of said applicator.
2. The cryotherapy device of Claim 1, further comprising a chilled healing medium within said hollow applicator.
3. The cryotherapy device of Claim 2, wherein the healing medium comprises aloe vera gel, distilled water, glycerin, a carbomer, and a sodium hydroxide solution.
4. The cryotherapy device of Claim 2, wherein the healing medium comprises an existing hemorrhoid product formulation.
5. The cryotherapy device of Claim 2, wherein the healing medium is formulated to provide about 5 minutes of cooling prior to melting during treatment.
6. The cryotherapy device of Claim 1, wherein said applicator includes a sealing cap.
7. The cryotherapy device of Claim 6, wherein the cap and the applicator include a plurality of complementary sealing structures.
8. The cryotherapy device of Claim 1, wherein said applicator is configured as a rectal insert being substantially cylindrical in shape and comprising a rounded end and an enlarged end to prevent said rectal insert from being fully inserted into a rectum.
9. The cryotherapy device of Claim 1, wherein said device is disposable and individually packaged.

10. A method of treating hemorrhoids and rectal tissue, comprising:  
placing an applicator having an open end and a plurality of slots into a sleeve that covers the slots, wherein the applicator contains a healing medium; and  
contacting applicator to a tissue area that is to be treated.

11. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 10, wherein the tissue requiring treatment is rectal tissue.

12. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 10, further comprising sealing the open end of the applicator by affixing a cap to the open end of the applicator after said placing step.

13. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 12, wherein the cap and the open end of the applicator include a plurality of complementary sealing structures.

14. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 10, further comprising chilling the healing medium after said placing step.

15. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 14, wherein the healing medium is formulated to provide about 5 minutes of cooling prior to melting during said contacting step.

16. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 10, further comprising removing the applicator from the sleeve after said placing step.

17. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 10, further comprising withdrawing the applicator from the tissue area and discarding the applicator and sleeve after said contacting step.

18. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 10, wherein the healing medium comprises aloe vera gel, distilled water, glycerin, a carbomer, and a sodium hydroxide solution.

19. The method of treating hemorrhoids of Claim 10, wherein the healing medium comprises an existing hemorrhoid product formulation.

20. A method of treating hemorrhoids and rectal tissue, comprising:  
placing an applicator having an open end and a plurality of slots into a sleeve that covers the slots;  
charging the applicator with a healing medium; and  
contacting applicator to a tissue area that is to be treated.